

REMARKS

Claims 1, 14 and 27 have been amended. A marked-up version of the amended claims is included in Appendix A. Claims 1-39 remain pending in the application.

Section 102(e) Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 1-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Barker et al. (U.S. Patent 6,363,421) (hereinafter “Barker”). Applicants assert that pending claims 1-39, as amended, are not anticipated by Barker.

Barker discloses a method for remotely managing a plurality of network elements of a telecommunications network through a special communications link. A management computer is connected to an element management system server 32 through a communication link including the internet. At least one of the network elements 14 is also coupled to the element management server 32 through the internet and is managed via communications conveyed through the element management server 32 between the management computer and the at least one network element 14.

As to claim 1, the Office Action argued that Barker discloses “an event gateway which is coupled to one or more managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers” in figure 2. Applicants respectfully disagree. In figure 2 and the accompanying description (col. 4 lines 6-64), Barker discloses an element management system client 28 which is configured as a web-browser-based front end for an element management system server 32. The element management system server 32 is configured to manage network elements 14 and includes managed objects 170 which represent the network elements 14 (see, for example, claim 21, figure 4, and col. 11, lines 47-51). Events are typically generated by managed objects 170 within the element management system server 32.

In contrast, Applicants' event gateway is coupled via a network to one or more managed objects. The managed objects are separate from the event gateway. As illustrated in figure 3 of Applicants' drawings, the managed objects may generate events, and the events may then be routed through an event gateway to one or more appropriate clients:

The MIS 308 provides an interface through which requests and events may be communicated with managed objects on the network. Events originating with a managed object may be passed by the MIS 308 to the EDS Source 338, which routes the message to an EDS Sink 332, where event filtering may occur in accordance with client subscription specifications. (Applicants' specification p. 22, lines 19-24)

Using this approach, Applicants' event gateway may provide a platform-independent interface to a plurality of event distribution system (EDS) sinks. Applicants' approach improves performance and scalability by allowing event sinks to be distributed. Instead of requiring all clients to receive events from one event sink, Applicants' invention allows clients to receive events from different sinks, thereby providing load-balancing.

The Office Action argued that the element management system client 28 is an event gateway as claimed by Applicants. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in Barker that the element management system client 28 "is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects" to the element management system server 32. To the contrary, the element management system client 28 receives events from the element management system server 32. Applicants therefore submit that Barker does not teach or suggest that the element management system client 28 functions as "an event gateway . . . which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers."

Furthermore, Applicants submit that the element management system server 32 of Barker is not an event gateway as claimed by Applicants. In figure 4 and the accompanying description (col. 11, lines 47-60), Barker discloses that the element management system server 32 includes managed objects 170 which represent the network

element 14 and generate events. In contrast, Applicants' events are generated by managed objects which are external to the event gateway. Therefore, Applicants submit that the element management system server 32 is not "an event gateway which is coupled to one or more managed objects" such that "the one or more managed objects which generate the events are separate from the event gateway."

Applicants respectfully submit that neither the element management system client 28, nor the element management system server 32, nor any other component disclosed by Barker is "an event gateway which is coupled to one or more managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers." Accordingly, Applicants submit that Barker fails to teach or suggest numerous limitations of claim 1.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 14 and 27, as amended, are not taught or suggested by Barker. For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants submit that Barker does not teach or suggest the remaining claims because the remaining claims provide additional limitations to claims 1, 14, and 27. Therefore, claims 1-39 are patentable over Barker. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 102(e) rejections of claims 1-39.

CONCLUSION

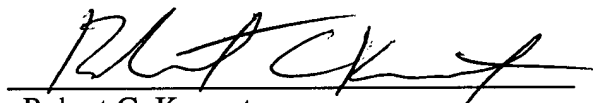
Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is requested.

If any extension of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) is necessary to prevent the above referenced application from becoming abandoned, Applicants hereby petition for such extension. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5181-48200/RCK.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☐ Petition for Extension of Time
- ☐ Request for Approval of Drawing Changes
- ☐ Notice of Change of Address
- ☒ Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims
- ☐ Marked-up Copy of Amended Paragraphs
- ☐ Fee Authorization Form authorizing a deposit account debit in the amount of \$
for fees ().
- ☐ Other:

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 11, 2003



APPENDIX A

Marked-up claims for 09/552,984

1. (Amended) A network management system comprising:

an event gateway which is coupled to one or more managed objects and which is configured to deliver events generated by the managed objects to one or more managers, wherein the one or more managed objects which generate the events are separate from the event gateway; and

a platform-independent interface to the event gateway, wherein the event gateway is configurable to communicate with the managers through the platform-independent interface to deliver the events generated by the managed objects;

wherein the gateway is configurable to provide the managers with subscriptions to the events as a function of event criteria specified by the managers, whereby events meeting the specified event criteria are delivered and events failing to meet the specified event criteria are filtered out.

14. (Amended) A network management method comprising:

registering a subscription of a manager application to one or more events generated by one or more managed objects by specifying event criteria to an event gateway, wherein the one or more managed objects which generate the one or more events are separate from the event gateway, and wherein the event gateway is configurable to communicate with the manager application through a platform-independent interface;

generating a plurality of events including one or more events matching the specified event criteria;

determining whether the specified event criteria are met for each of the plurality of generated events; and

delivering each event for which the specified event criteria are met.

27. (Amended) A carrier medium comprising program instructions for network management, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to perform:

registering a subscription of a manager application to one or more events generated by one or more managed objects by specifying event criteria to an event gateway, wherein the one or more managed objects which generate the one or more events are separate from the event gateway, and wherein the event gateway is configurable to communicate with the manager application through a platform-independent interface;

generating a plurality of events including one or more events matching the specified event criteria;

determining whether the specified event criteria are met for each of the plurality of generated events; and

delivering each event for which the specified event criteria are met.